

Amendments to the Claims:

This listing of the claims will replace all prior versions, and listings of claims in the present patent application:

Listing of Claims:

Claim 1 (currently amended). A mobile handset comprising:

a housing having at least one [[a]] key opening and a transparent area integrally associated with a front portion of the housing;

a graphical element positioned adjacent the key opening and on the transparent area, the graphical element being indicative of a key function, wherein saidthe graphical element is located on the transparent area in the front portion of saidthe housing; and

a backlighting source within the mobile handset and constructed to illuminate at least a portion of the transparent area.

Claim 2 (previously presented). The device of claim 1 wherein the backlighting source comprises at least one source selected from the group consisting of an electroluminescent panel and an array of light emitting diodes.

Claim 3 (previously presented). The device of claim 1 wherein the transparent area comprises a translucent area.

Claim 4 (previously presented). The device of claim 1 further comprising at least one

layer of an opaque coating upon at least a portion of the transparent area.

Claim 5 (previously presented). The device of claim 4 wherein the graphical element comprises a negative image within the coating.

Claim 6 (previously presented). The device of claim 5 wherein the graphical element comprises at least one type of graphical element selected from the group consisting of laser-etched graphical elements, pad-printed graphical elements, and in-mold decorated graphical elements.

Claim 7 (previously presented). The device of claim 1 wherein the graphical element comprises at least one type of graphical element selected from the group consisting of painted opaque graphical elements, pad-printed opaque graphical elements, and in-mold decorated opaque graphical elements.

Claim 8 (previously presented). The device of claim 1 wherein the housing and the graphical element comprise an in-molded graphical element.

Claim 9 (previously presented). The device of claim 8 further comprising at least one layer of an opaque coating on the non-graphics surface area of the housing.

Claim 10 (previously presented). The device of claim 8 further comprising at least one layer of an opaque coating on the graphics surface area of the housing.

Claim 11 (currently amended). A mobile handset comprising:

a translucent housing having an outer and inner surface;

at least one layer of an opaque coating upon at least saidthe outer surface of
saidthe translucent housing;

graphical elements located on at least saidthe translucent housing outer surface,
saidthe graphical elements positioned adjacent key openings on saidthe translucent
housing and being indicative of a key function, and comprising a negative image within
saidthe coating so as to expose saidthe translucent housing outer surface through
saidthe graphical elements; and

a backlighting source located within saidthe housing for enhancing the visibility of
saidthe graphical elements, saidthe backlighting source comprising at least one source
selected from the group consisting of an electroluminescent panel and an array of light
emitting diodes.

Claim 12 (currently amended). In a mobile handset comprising a split housing
defining front and back portions, the front portion carrying a key pad including a plurality
of spaced apart keys arranged in a convenient manner to permit user access to
telephonic functions, a power source, a backlighting source such as an
electroluminescent panel, and graphical elements including a plurality of symbols each
corresponding to one or more telephonic functions, the improvement comprising:
at least the front portion of saidthe housing formed from light transmitting
material;

an opaque layer covering selected portions of saidthe light transmitting housing front portion defining the edges of the graphical elements, wherein saidthe graphical elements are located on saidthe transparent area which is integrally formed in a front portion of saidthe light transmitting housing; and

the electroluminescent panel arranged within the housing so that visible light is emitted through areas of saidthe housing front portions not covered by saidthe opaque layer.